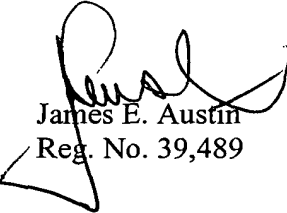


**REMARKS**

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP



James E. Austin  
Reg. No. 39,489

P.O. Box 778  
Berkeley, CA 94704-0778  
(510) 843-6200